



Georgia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday
March 21,
2023

DAILY REPORT

37th
Legislative
Day

House Budget & Research Office
(404) 656-5050

- The House will reconvene for its 38th Legislative Day on Thursday, March 23 at 10:00 a.m.
- 14 bills / resolutions are expected to be debated on the floor.

Today on the Floor

Rules Calendar

SB 47 Offenses Against Public Health And Morals; vaping in restricted areas is a misdemeanor punishable by fine; provide

Bill Summary: SB 47 adds the smoking of electronic smoking or vaping devices to the Georgia Smokefree Air Act of 2005.

Authored By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd)
House Committee: Public Health
Floor Vote: Yeas: 152 Nays: 14

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-15-2023 Do Pass
Amendments:

SB 131 Permanent Guardianship; service by publication; provide

Bill Summary: Section 1 of SB 131 requires a guardianship petition hearing to be conducted in accordance with O.C.G.A. 29-2-18.

Section 2 adds requirements to the process of serving individuals related to a child who was adjudicated as a dependent child and any other parties who appear to the court as proper or necessary to the proceeding.

Section 3 makes a conviction of a parent for murder or voluntary manslaughter of the other parent a mandatory basis for removing a child from the parent who was convicted.

Section 4 allows the court to exercise its discretion when determining the custody of a child and one parent was indicted for the offense of murder or voluntary manslaughter of the other parent.

Authored By: Sen. Blake Tillery (19th)
House Committee: Juvenile Justice
Floor Vote: Yeas: 165 Nays: 5

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-15-2023 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

SB 135 Paternity; Uniform Parentage Act of 2017; align evidentiary medical and genetic testing

Bill Summary: SB 135 clarifies that when genetic testing is required by court order, testing must be of a type reasonably relied upon by experts in that field and conducted by a laboratory accredited by either the AABB (formerly known as the American Association of Blood Banks) or an accrediting body designated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Results of genetic testing, including the statistical likelihood of the alleged parent's parentage, are admitted into evidence without foundational testimony or other proof of accuracy, unless a party objects in writing at least 30 days prior to a hearing at which the results may be introduced into evidence.

The bill makes results of required genetic testing self-authenticating and admissible into any civil actions as long as documentation from the laboratory contains the following chain of custody information: the name and photograph of each individual whom was tested; the name of the individual who collected the test result; the place and date each result was collected; the name of the person who received the result in the laboratory; and the date the result was received.

Authored By: Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)
House Juvenile Justice
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 171 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-13-2023 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 148 Nonprofit Corporations; comprehensively revise, simplify, and modernize said chapter

Bill Summary: SB 148 provides comprehensive revisions to the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code, including updates, clarifications, and modernizations. Sections are updated to account for grammatical corrections, new definitions, changes from the Georgia Business Code for consistency, and changes for consistency with operations of Secretary of State and Attorney General's offices.

The bill revises quorum requirements of nonprofit corporations to be a majority of the voting power unless bylaws provide otherwise, and requires that the secretary of a nonprofit be a separate person from the chief executive officer. Executive directors are to be designated as officers, unless articles provide otherwise, and are subject to duties of care and good faith. Executive directors are also subject to conflict of interest rules. The minimum number of directors in non-member nonprofits is revised from one to three, and directors are afforded an express right of access to corporate information and an ability to enforce that right in court. Directors are afforded the same indemnification protections for nonprofits as are provided in the business code.

Authored By: Sen. John Kennedy (18th)
House Judiciary
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Nays: 4

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-14-2023 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 213 Zoning Procedures; local governments from preventing the continuance of lawful nonconforming use of property; prohibit

Bill Summary: SB 213 prohibits local governments from adopting or enforcing any zoning decisions or other regulations on a new manufactured or mobile home that were not imposed on the preexisting home, in specified circumstances and subject to specified exceptions.

Authored By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd)
House Governmental Affairs
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 169 Nays: 2

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-15-2023 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 218 Identification Cards; issuance of identification cards to persons completing a term of incarceration; provide

Bill Summary: SB 218 allows for the issuance of identification cards to persons who complete a term of incarceration. The bill requires the Department of Corrections to provide identifying information to the Department of Driver Services for the card.

The bill requires that when a person is released from confinement from the Department of Corrections, the department releases to the individual, with their consent, documents pertaining to the program history including whether the person completed training requested by the Board of Pardons and Paroles; whether they completed programs recommended by the Department of Corrections; whether they obtained a state-approved high school equivalency diploma or other educational degree; and the person's institutional work record.

Authored By: Sen. Michael Rhetts (33rd)
House Public Safety & Homeland Security
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-15-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

Floor Vote: Yeas: 171 Nays: 0

Amendments:

Postponed Until Next Legislative Day

- SB 1 State Government; automatic repealer on the prohibition on state and local governments from requiring proof of COVID vaccination for government services; remove**
Bill Summary: SB 1 removes the sunset on the prohibition that prevents state and local governments from requiring proof of COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of providing services, accessing a facility, issuing licenses or permits, performing duties, and other matters.
Authored By: Sen. Greg Dolezal (27th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
- SB 20 "Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act"; ensure consumer access to quality healthcare by setting adequacy standards for network plans offered by an insurer**
Bill Summary: SB 20 requires insurers to contract with and maintain a sufficient and appropriate number of participating network providers. Additionally, insurers are prohibited from denying preauthorization of services that were rendered by an in-network provider because the referring provider is out-of-network. The bill gives the insurance commissioner authority to review network adequacy.
Authored By: Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
- SB 64 Birth Certificate; issuance of a copy of the original birth certificate to certain adult persons who were adopted; provide**
Bill Summary: SB 64 allows an adult who had been adopted to request and receive a copy of their original Georgia birth certificate following payment of a fee. The copy will indicate it is not a certified copy. A parent, sibling, or descendant of a deceased person may receive a copy of the decedent's birth certificate under the same procedure.
Authored By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
- SB 155 Dangerous Instrumentalities and Practices; provisions relating to harming a law enforcement animal; revise**
Bill Summary: SB 155 creates the offense of aggravated harming of a public safety animal or search and rescue animal when they know or should have known that an animal is a public safety animal or search and rescue animal and when they intentionally commit, conspire, or attempt to commit an act that causes the death of the animal or injures the animal in a manner that affects its ability to perform as a public safety animal or search and rescue animal.

The penalty for this conviction is at least two years and no more than 10 years imprisonment, a fine up to \$50,000, or both. The first two years of the sentence cannot be suspended, probated, deferred, or withheld by a sentencing court without the agreement of the prosecuting attorney and the defendant on a sentence below the mandatory minimum.
Authored By: Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

Local Calendar

- HB 716 Cave Spring, City of; revise and modernize charter**
Bill Summary: HB 716 revises the charter of the City of Cave Spring.
Authored By: Rep. Eddie Lumsden (12th) **Rule Applied:**
House Intragovernmental Coordination - **Committee** 03-20-2023 Do Pass
Committee: Local **Action:**
Floor Vote: Yeas: 164 Nays: 0 **Amendments:**

HB 722 Acworth, City of; adopt by reference a certain map

Bill Summary: HB 722 adopts by reference a certain map for the City of Acworth.

Authored By:	Rep. Lisa Campbell (35th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-20-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 164 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

HB 727 Darien, City of; increase a residency requirement to one year

Bill Summary: HB 727 revises residency requirements of the city council members of the City of Darien.

Authored By:	Rep. Buddy DeLoach (167th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-20-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 164 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

HB 731 DeKalb County; tax commissioner; election and filling of vacancies; change certain provisions

Bill Summary: HB 731 revises the election and filling vacancies for the office of tax commissioner of DeKalb County.

Authored By:	Rep. Karla Drenner (85th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-20-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 164 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

HB 732 Quitman County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee

Bill Summary: HB 732 authorizes a technology fee by the magistrate court of Quitman County.

Authored By:	Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-20-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 164 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

HB 733 Richmond County; letting contracts and opening bids; revise provisions

Bill Summary: HB 733 revises provisions related to contracts for Richmond County.

Authored By:	Rep. Lynn Gladney (130th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-20-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 164 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

HB 735 Hiawassee, City of; levy an excise tax

Bill Summary: HB 735 authorizes the City of Hiawassee to levy an excise tax.

Authored By:	Rep. Stan Gunter (8th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-20-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 164 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

HB 739 Cobb County; State Court; change salary of the chief deputy clerk and clerk

Bill Summary: HB 739 revises the salary of the clerk and chief deputy clerk of the state court of Cobb County.

Authored By:	Rep. Devan Seabaugh (34th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-20-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 164 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

HB 740 Hinesville, City of; levy an excise tax

Bill Summary: HB 740 authorizes the City of Hinesville to levy an excise tax.

Authored By:	Rep. Al Williams (168th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-20-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 164 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

HB 742 Clay County; Magistrate Court; authorize assessment and collection of technology fee

Bill Summary: HB 742 authorizes a technology fee by the magistrate court of Clay County.

Authored By:	Rep. Gerald Greene (154th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-20-2023 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 164 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules

The Committee on Rules has fixed the calendar for the 38th Legislative Day, Thursday, March 23, and bills may be called at the pleasure of the Speaker.

SB 45 Education; care of students being treated for epilepsy or a seizure disorder; provide

Bill Summary: SB 45 creates 'A.J.'s Law' to provide for the care of students being treated for epilepsy or a seizure disorder. A school nurse or other school employee should be trained in the proper protocols should a student experience a seizure while at school. The parent or guardian must annually supply the school with a seizure action plan which provides specific directions about what to do in emergency situations.

Authored By: Sen. Jason Anavitarte (31st)
House Education
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-15-2023 Do Pass
Action:

SB 65 Commissioner of Insurance; general provisions; establishing an advisory committee; provisions; authorize

Bill Summary: SB 65 allows the state to establish a state-based healthcare exchange.

Authored By: Sen. Ben Watson (1st)
House Insurance
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 02-22-2023 Do Pass
Action:

SB 86 Education; eligible students participating in the Dual Enrollment program to access HOPE career grant funds for certain CTAE courses; allow

Bill Summary: SB 86 allows eligible dual enrollment students to access HOPE grant funds for eligible career, technical, and agricultural education (CTAE) courses. The bill requires reporting of specified information relating to the dual enrollment program.

Authored By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
House Higher Education
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-16-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 91 Workers' Compensation; the time period for the dissolution of the Subsequent Injury Trust Fund; extend

Bill Summary: SB 91 amends O.C.G.A. 34-9-368 to revise the sunset clause of the Subsequent Injury Trust Fund to December 31, 2025.

Authored By: Sen. Clint Dixon (45th)
House Industry and Labor
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-15-2023 Do Pass
Action:

SB 95 Solid Waste Trust Fund; specify the manner in which funds appropriated shall be used

Bill Summary: SB 95 amends O.C.G.A. 12-8-40.1, relating to tire disposal restrictions and fees, to require tire distributors, rather than retail dealers, to collect the \$1.00 per tire sold.

The bill amends O.C.G.A. 12-8-33, relating to the Recycling Market Development Council, by adding an individual from the tire industry to the list of industry representatives considered by the governor for appointment to the Recycling Market Development Council.

Authored By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
House Natural Resources & Environment
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-16-2023 Do Pass
Action:

SB 129 Primaries and Elections; time off for employees to advance vote; provide

Bill Summary: SB 129 allows the State Election Board to appoint members of county boards of elections, or county boards of elections and registration to performance review boards. The bill clarifies the language that must be included on any absentee ballot application that is mailed to an elector by a nongovernmental entity.

The bill requires employers, upon reasonable notice, to provide time off for employees to vote during the period of advance voting. The bill extends the time limit from 10:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. for specified reporting requirements for election superintendents following the close of the polls on the day of an election. The bill clarifies the auditing requirements for local election superintendents following specified elections.

Authored By: Sen. Rick Williams (25th)
House Governmental Affairs
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-15-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 158 Property Insurance; insurance premium discount or rate reduction for property owners; tornado, hurricane, or other catastrophic windstorm events; provide

Bill Summary: SB 158 provides an insurance premium discount or reduction for a home or commercial property built to fortified standards to better resist catastrophic wind events.

Authored By: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
House Insurance
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-15-2023 Do Pass
Action:

SB 197 "Health Care Practitioners Truth and Transparency Act"; enact

Bill Summary: SB 197 amends the 'Consumer Information and Awareness Act' to prohibit an advertisement or identification by a healthcare practitioner that includes deceptive or misleading terms or false representation or references to medical or medical specialty titles, unless the practitioner is a licensed physician.

The bill requires advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants to verbally identify themselves during each patient interaction and clearly state they are not a medical doctor if they hold a doctorate degree and identify themselves with the title "doctor".

Authored By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd)
House Health
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-13-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 199 State's Employee Benefit Plan Council; council to establish health savings accounts; require

Bill Summary: SB 199 authorizes the state's Employee Benefit Plan Council to provide health savings accounts as part of the flexible employee benefit plan for state employees, public school employees, and teachers. The bill provides discretion to the council on whether to provide flexible benefit deductions or salary reductions, and allows the flexible benefit plan to continually provide deductions or salary reductions related to health savings accounts starting January 1, 2025.

Authored By: Sen. Jason Esteves (6th)
House Health
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-15-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 204 Education Accountability; recognition of certain accrediting agencies as evaluators of the quality of education offered in public schools in this state; provide

Bill Summary: SB 204 requires accrediting agencies that operate in Georgia to focus on student achievement, academic success, and fiscal solvency of schools and school systems. The State Board of Education must establish evaluation criteria, procedures, and other requirements for recognized accrediting agencies.

Authored By: Sen. Greg Dolezal (27th)
House Education
Committee:

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-15-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

Committee Actions

Bills passing committees are reported to the Clerk's Office and are placed on the General Calendar.

Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee

SB 177 "Food Insecurity Eradication Act"; enact

Bill Summary: SB 177 creates the 'Georgia Food Security Advisory Council' within the Georgia Department of Agriculture to recommend and advise the General Assembly and state agencies on best practices and policies to address food insecurity.

The council will consist of 15 members as follows: the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture; the commissioner of the Department of Human Services; the state school superintendent; four members appointed by the governor, including one representative from the Department of Public Health, one representative from the Department of Early Care and Learning, one representative of an institution of high learning with a focus on alleviating food insecurity, and one person to serve as the council's chairperson; four members appointed by the lieutenant governor, including a representative from a hospital or health system focused on food insecurity, a representative from a food policy council, an owner of a grocery store that accepts SNAP and WIC program benefits, and a representative from a municipal chamber of commerce in an urban area; and four members appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, including a Georgia farmer, a CEO of a food bank or food bank supporting organization, one representative from a municipal chamber of commerce in a rural area, and an owner or operator of a local community farmers' market.

The council must submit a report to the governor and General Assembly each year beginning on July 1, 2024, and will stand abolished on June 30, 2026.

Authored By: Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd)
House Committee: Agriculture & Consumer Affairs

Committee Action: 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Defense & Veterans Affairs Committee

HR 476 Congress; ensure spouses of active duty service members are able to obtain the retirement benefits that they have earned; urge

Bill Summary: HR 476 urges the U.S. Congress to enact legislation to allow military spouses to retain retirement benefits earned through multiple public pension plans based on creditable service.

Authored By: Rep. David Huddleston (72nd)
House Committee: Defense & Veterans Affairs

Committee Action: 03-21-2023 Do Pass

Education Committee

SB 233 'The Georgia Promise Scholarship Act'; establishment of promise scholarship accounts

Bill Summary: SB 233 creates the 'Georgia Promise Scholarship Act', which would provide \$6,500 per student to families for qualified education-related expenses outside of the public school system. Qualified education expenses include; tuition at a participating school, tutoring, and purchase of curriculum, professional services, transportation, and other expenses authorized by the State Board of Education.

Funds will go into an account controlled by a parent to be used for qualified education expenses.

The bill stipulates reporting requirements participating schools must provide annually to the Georgia Student Finance Commission and the Department of Education. The commission must annually

report to the General Assembly on the previous fiscal year's promise scholarship recipients and their respective schools.

Author By: Sen. Greg Dolezal (27th)
House Education
Committee:

Committee 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SR 175 Joint Study Committee on Dual Enrollment for Highly Skilled Talent at Younger Ages; create

Bill Summary: SR 175 creates the Joint Study Committee on Dual Enrollment for Highly Skilled Talent at Younger Ages. This committee will examine existing dual enrollment opportunities to develop highly skilled talent at younger ages and develop solutions to produce more dual enrollment talent.

Section 2 creates the Joint Study Committee on Service Delivery Strategy (SDS). The committee will consist of 10 members as follows: the president of the Senate will appoint three members of the Senate, including the chair of the Senate State and Local Governmental Operations Committee, a county commissioner from a county currently levying a local option sales tax (LOST), and a mayor of a city within a county currently levying a LOST; the speaker of the House will appoint three members of the House of Representatives, including the chair of the House Committee on Governmental Affairs, a county commissioner from a county currently levying a LOST, and a mayor of a city within a county currently levying a LOST. A co-chairperson each from the House of Representatives and Senate will be chosen by the president of the Senate and speaker of the House, respectively. The committee will stand abolished on December 1, 2023.

Author By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
House Education
Committee:

Committee 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

Governmental Affairs Committee

SB 215 Public Records; personal information of public employees; protect from public disclosure

Bill Summary: SB 215 requires local governments, upon employee request, to remove personally identifiable information of such employee from all property records that are publicly available on the local government's website.

Author By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
House Governmental Affairs
Committee:

Committee 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 222 Primaries and Elections; all costs and expenses relating to election administration are paid for with lawfully appropriate public funds; provide

Bill Summary: SB 222 requires all expenses related to conducting elections to be paid from lawfully-appropriated public funds. The bill prohibits local governments or election officials from accepting any contributions or donations for the purpose of conducting elections, subject to specified exceptions. The bill prohibits election superintendents, local governments, and boards of registrars from accepting grants or gifts related to conducting elections from any entity other than the State of Georgia or the federal government.

The bill establishes the State Election Board as a separate and distinct budget unit in the state budget, attached to the Office of the Secretary of State for administrative purposes only. The bill completely removes the State Election Board from the jurisdiction of the secretary of state. The bill provides for appointment of an executive director of the State Election Board.

Author By: Sen. Max Burns (23rd)
House Governmental Affairs
Committee:

Committee 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SR 214 Joint Study Committee on Local Option Sales Tax and Service Delivery Strategy; create
Bill Summary: SR 214 calls for the nomination and election of the chairperson of the State Election Board.

Authored By: Sen. Frank Ginn (47th)
House Governmental Affairs
Committee:

Committee 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

Judiciary Committee

SB 13 Public Sales; tax levies and executions; authorize online

Bill Summary: SB 13 provides an online option for sales of property taken under execution, sales for taxes due, or sales made on foreclosure. Utilizing an online option is at the discretion of the sheriff or coroner. Any fee charged to any purchaser will not exceed \$250. With respect to foreclosure sales, no sale of real estate will be valid unless advertised and conducted at the county courthouse on the first Tuesday of the month between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM, and at public outcry.

Authored By: Sen. John Albers (56th)
House Judiciary
Committee:

Committee 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 19 Courts; collection of passport application and processing fees by clerks of superior courts and probate court judges; provide

Bill Summary: SB 19 enacts requirements for fees, sums, or other remuneration for the performance of passport duties performed by clerks of superior courts and probate judges. Both clerks and probate judges will issue written reports to counties disclosing the total amount of fees received by the clerks or probate judges during the agreed upon reporting period.

One-third of fees will be paid into the general fund of the county in quarterly installments, one-third of fees will be retained by the clerk or probate judge for purposes of maintaining and operating their respective offices, and one-third of fees will be retained by the clerk or probate judge as personal compensation, provided any amount exceeding 50 percent of the base salary goes towards maintaining and operating the office of the clerk or probate judge.

Fees will not include postage expenses. The division of funds may be changed by local act of the General Assembly, or by written agreement of the county governing authority and the clerk or judge.

Authored By: Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)
House Judiciary
Committee:

Committee 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 66 Superior Courts; Atlantic Judicial Circuit; additional judge; provide

Bill Summary: SB 66 increases the number of superior court judges in the Atlantic Judicial Circuit from four to five. The fifth judge will be appointed for a term beginning January 1, 2024, and an election will take place at the 2026 nonpartisan judicial election.

Authored By: Sen. Billy Hickman (4th)
House Judiciary
Committee:

Committee 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 74 Commerce and Trade, Courts, and Torts; the disclosure of the nature and practices of businesses that provide legal services; require

Bill Summary: SB 74 makes it unlawful to misrepresent oneself as an attorney, or misrepresent an entity as engaged in providing legal services unless that person is a duly licensed attorney at law in Georgia or unless the entity is entitled to furnish legal services. It makes it unlawful to represent that a person featured in legal media is able to offer legal services in Georgia when that person is not a duly licensed attorney at law. It also makes it unlawful to fail to provide accurate language reflecting

the legal services, scope of work, success rate, or fees of a person practicing law.

Violations are punishable with a misdemeanor offense. Damages of \$500 or actual damages, whichever is greater, may be awarded in a civil claim against a person who solicits in any media in violation of this act.

Authored By: Sen. Blake Tillery (19th)
House Judiciary
Committee:

Committee 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 103 Unclaimed Property; handling of certain wills; provide

Bill Summary: SB 103 provides processes related to the disposition of unclaimed property as it pertains to the Department of Revenue. If a will, codicil, or other trust instrument is included among the contents of a safe-deposit box, the commissioner will retain those documents unless delivered to the testator/settlor upon confirmation of identity, delivered to the probate court, permitted to be removed, or delivered to the trustee.

A claimant's designated representative may file a claim if they claim an interest in any property, with that claim being considered by the commissioner and upon approval, the claimant's designated representative shall be paid the balance remaining after deduction. When determining the merits of an unclaimed property claim, the commissioner will rely on applicable statutes, regulations, and court decisions. The burden will be on the claimant to establish entitlement to the property by a preponderance of the evidence.

Upon request, the commissioner will provide a claimant's designated representative relevant account information in a searchable digital format for all unclaimed accounts, with this information being prohibited from distribution. A claimant's designated representative will register with the commissioner and pay a \$1,200.00 fee for a four-year registration.

Authored By: Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)
House Judiciary
Committee:

Committee 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

SB 168 Hospitals and Nursing Homes; chiropractic practice to have a lien on a cause of action accruing to an injured person; allow

Bill Summary: SB 168 includes chiropractic practices among the entities able to have a lien on a cause of action accruing to an injured person for costs of care. No filing of a lien will be enforceable unless the individual or entity filing the lien first submitted a claim to each health insurer of the injured person, if any, and had the claim rejected.

Authored By: Sen. Rick Williams (25th)
House Judiciary
Committee:

Committee 03-21-2023 Do Pass
Action:

Public Health Committee

HB 358 Education; instruction on best practices for and risks associated with use of tampons; provide

Bill Summary: HB 358 requires local boards of education to include human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention information as well as the risks associated with tampon use in sexual education curriculum. The bill also encourages healthcare professionals that provide tampons to female patients to include written information about the risk of toxic shock syndrome.

Authored By: Rep. Debra Bazemore (69th)
House Public Health
Committee:

Committee 03-21-2023 Do Pass
Action:

SB 109 Department of Community Health; include continuous glucose monitors as a pharmacy benefit for Medicaid recipients; require

Bill Summary: SB 109 prohibits insurers from denying coverage of an in-network provider for provider administered medication or the administration of such medication under certain circumstances.

The bill requires the Department of Community Health to cover continuous glucose monitors through Medicaid as a pharmacy benefit. Eligibility for coverage includes a diagnosis of diabetes mellitus and patient or caregiver training. Additionally, a patient must have use of daily insulin or a history of problematic hypoglycemia to receive the benefit. An in-person or telehealth visit is required within six months prior to and every six months after initial prescription.

Authorized By: Sen. Shelly Echols (49th)
House Committee: Public Health

Committee Action: 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Retirement Committee**SB 56 Ad Valorem Taxation; state revenue commissioner to contract with the board of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia to offer certain county tax commissioners the option to participate in a state administered deferred compensation plan; require**

Bill Summary: SB 56 creates a deferred compensation plan for eligible county tax commissioners. Tax commissioners are eligible if they are not permitted to participate in a retirement system or deferred compensation offered by the county that utilizes a 401(k) or 457(b). The Employees' Retirement System of Georgia will administer the plan and the state will match contributions of up to 5 percent of the minimum annual salary for county tax commissioners.

Authorized By: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd)
House Committee: Retirement

Committee Action: 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

SB 240 Retirement and Pensions; the minimum and maximum allowable benefit multiplier for current and future retirees; revise

Bill Summary: SB 240 prohibits anyone hired after June 1, 2023 from becoming a member of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia, if the operator or management company of the public charter school in which they are employed offers an alternative retirement plan.

The bill requires the Employees Retirement System of Georgia to identify each school system that does not extend Social Security coverage to members of the Public School Employees Retirement System (PSERS). The Employees Retirement System must submit a report of all school systems that do not offer this benefit to the chairmen of the House and Senate Retirement Committees by September 1, 2023. Any school system not offering coverage must revise their plan to extend coverage by January 1, 2024.

On or after September 1, 2023 the Employees Retirement System is not authorized to approve any plan that does not extend Social Security benefits to PSERS members. The bill is certified by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts as a non-fiscal retirement bill.

Authorized By: Sen. Larry Walker III (20th)
House Committee: Retirement

Committee Action: 03-21-2023 Do Pass by Committee Substitute

Committee Meeting Schedule

*This meeting schedule is up to date at the time of this report, but meeting dates and times are subject to change.
To keep up with the latest schedule, please visit www.legis.ga.gov to view all upcoming events.*

Wednesday - March 22, 2023

8:00 AM	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM COMMITTEE (House)	406 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
8:30 AM	Judiciary Non-Civil Hong Subcommittee (House)	132 CAP	VIDEO Agenda
9:00 AM	GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (House)	406 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
11:00 AM	JUDICIARY NON-CIVIL COMMITTEE (House)	132 CAP	VIDEO Agenda
1:00 PM	JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE (House)	515 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
1:00 PM	PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE (House)	506 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
1:00 PM	Education Policy Subcommittee (House)	406 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
1:30 PM	HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE (House)	606 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
2:00 PM	SPECIAL RULES COMMITTEE (House)	415 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
2:00 PM	Education Curriculum Subcommittee (House)	406 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
3:00 PM	MOTOR VEHICLES COMMITTEE (House)	515 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
3:00 PM	Natural Resources & Environment Environmental Quality Subcommittee (House)	415 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
3:00 PM	CANCELED INDUSTRY & LABOR COMMITTEE (House)	506 CLOB	VIDEO Agenda
5:00 PM	WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE (House)	406 CLOB	VIDEO